

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 122

BY SENATOR ALARIO AND REPRESENTATIVE BILLIOT

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend and express appreciation to Michael David Edmonson for thirty-six years of dedicated and distinguished law enforcement service, including nine years as Superintendent of the Louisiana State Police.

WHEREAS, Michael David Edmonson, a native of Alexandria, Louisiana, graduated from Holy Savior Menard Central High School in 1976, where he played on a state championship baseball team; and

WHEREAS, he then attended Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge and was a walk-on baseball player there until he was permanently sidelined by a knee injury; and

WHEREAS, while he attended college, Edmonson also worked as a security guard at the former Goudchaux's department store in Baton Rouge where he caught a shoplifter and decided on a career in law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, he graduated with a Bachelor of Criminal Justice degree in 1980, attended graduate school at LSU, and subsequently completed the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia, and the FBI National Executive Institute; and

WHEREAS, he is married to Suzanne Maglone Edmonson and they have four children; Brittney, Michael Jr., Casey, and Cade; and

WHEREAS, in January 1981, at the age of twenty-two, Edmonson joined the Louisiana State Police; from 1982 to 2008, he was assigned as the bodyguard and confidant of all LSU Tigers football coaches from Jerry Stovall to Les Miles; from 2004 to 2006, Edmonson was also the commander of Capitol Detail and Physical Security and managed two Department of Public Safety command sections; and in 2007, he was named the state police training command inspector and managed the State Police Training Academy and the Joint Emergency Services Training Center; and

WHEREAS, in January 2008, he was appointed by Governor Bobby Jindal to serve as the Superintendent of the Louisiana State Police, the highest rank in the organization, also serving as the deputy secretary of the Department of Public Safety, an agency with more than 2,900 employees and a budget of nearly \$500 million, which includes the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission, the Office of Management and Finance, the Office of Motor Vehicles, the Office of State Fire Marshal, the Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office, and the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Commission; and

WHEREAS, in September 2012, Edmonson assumed the chairmanship of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and in 2016 received a lifetime achievement award from the organization; and

WHEREAS, among the many honors Colonel Mike Edmonson received was the 2013 Buford Pusser National Law Enforcement Award, an award which is awarded annually to deserving officers who have exhibited both heroism and leadership in law enforcement, in honor of his work in unifying state and local police departments; and

WHEREAS, he left the office of superintendent of the Louisiana State Police on March 24, 2017, having served the longest tenure of any state police superintendent; and

WHEREAS, under his leadership, state and local law enforcement implemented efficiency and technical improvements that gave law enforcement agencies better tools to protect the people of this state, including creating a centralized state sex offender registry and developing a 700-megahertz statewide radio system that connects local law enforcement agencies, fire departments, and emergency medical services with state police and federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, because of his diligence, dedication, and commitment to protecting the people of Louisiana, it is appropriate that a sincere and heartfelt measure of appreciation be expressed to Mike Edmonson for his remarkable term of professional service, including guidance and leadership to his community, parish, state, and country; and

WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend in great measure upon law enforcement officers like Mike Edmonson who use their talents and resources to lead by example, with ethics, and integrity.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and express appreciation to Superintendent of Louisiana State Police Colonel Michael David Edmonson on his retirement after thirty-six years of dedicated and distinguished service in law enforcement, including nine years as superintendent, and does hereby extend to him and his family full measures of continued success and happiness in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Mike Edmonson.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES